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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT [redacted]
CD NO. 50X1

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Russian Order for Flatcars for the Transportation of Tanks
DATE DISTR. 3 December 1952
NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]
NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)
PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted] 50X1

[redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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[redacted]

1. A priority order, to be carried out by the East German Railway Administration, is the supply of flatcars for transporting tanks. Previous reports that these cars were required for transporting uranium ore were in error. 50X1-HUM
2. The flatcars are required for transporting tanks of an approximate weight of 90 tons. The number ordered by the Russians is not known, but some idea of it may be obtained from the fact that, late in September 1952, the East German Railways were urgently seeking some 5,000 tons of Siemens-Martin 25-millimeter plates in connection with this Russian flatcar program. These plates must each have a tensile strength of 37/12 millimeters. 50X1-HUM
3. On 15 August 1952, Gerhard Ziller, East German Minister for Machine Construction, [redacted] complained of the inability of Binz's agency to finance the purchase of plates for the flatcar procurement program. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- b. the fact that of 2,500 tons of plates ordered, 1,366 tons had been delivered as of 15 August 1952;
- c. that the State Administration for Material Procurement normally obtains funds for purchasing requirements by selling East German dollar exports, and, in particular, pit props and sugar;
- d. that action would be taken against responsible officials of the State Administration for Material Procurement at the "Vertragsgericht" of the SED Central

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